

The Position of Men and Parties—Col. Orr—The Presidency.

In this State there is a warm feeling manifested by a portion of the Press, and also by a large portion of political leaders, in favor of Gen. Pierce for the Presidency.

Early Cotton.

Mr. H. J. Stevens informs us that on Sunday last, the 1st inst., he observed two open pods of Cotton on his plantation.

The Rail Road Meeting.

We have not time to write about the Rail Road Meeting on Monday, and it is only by a squeeze we can get in this paper the official proceedings.

While present at the meeting, we heard two very good speeches from P. T. Hammond, Esq., and Dr. Galluchat.

We understand that our worthy and esteemed citizen, M. Clinton, Esq., made some remarks rather prejudicial to the enterprise and introduced a resolution which would have the effect to throw cold water on the whole affair.

We observe in the last Greenville Mountaineer that Col. Campbell has disposed of his interest in that paper to Mr. Gosset, one of the former proprietors.

The Seventh Anniversary Exercises and Commencement of the Limestone Springs Female High School took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 19th and 20th July.

At the examination on Wednesday, an exhibition was made of Herbariums, which the pupils had collected chiefly in walks through the neighborhood.

Presidential Election.

The Fairfield Herald, of the 29th ult., contains an article of some length on the above named subject. We differ in opinion with the Herald. "It is perfectly clear the people have a right to take these elections into their own hands."

We assume the broad ground that no Northern man is in favor of slavery, and further, we do not believe that any Northern man is in favor of the Fugitive Slave Law.

The Herald goes on to say: "Or give the election of electors to the people, with this qualification, that the elections of Sheriff, Tax Collector, Clerk of the Court, and Ordinary, all to be taken from the people and made by the Legislature."

This is absolutely absurd. We need only relate a little circumstance to show the fallacy of such reasoning. An esteemed friend told us one day in conversation, that when the election of Tax Collector was confined to the Legislature, should either candidate be a cripple, he would most certainly be elected—he may be worthy, or he may be unworthy.

In all sense and reason, it is even probable to suppose, that the Legislature would enquire into the capabilities of the candidate for Sheriff or Tax Collector? And even admitting they do, would the members of Greenville or Pickens District care who was elected Sheriff or Tax Collector in Lancaster? And who are better able to judge of the qualifications of the candidates than the people of their own District?

The idea advanced by the Herald is indeed absurd.

"The purport of the opinions I have heard expressed amounts to this.—That Mr. Orr has acted in a manner unbecoming a South Carolina representative. That it was presumption in him, to attempt to involve his State in a matter, wherein she had declared herself, in a manner not to be misunderstood, determined to take no active part. That he acted unadvisedly in so doing. That it was ungrateful for him to become the biographer of Gen. Pierce. That it was reprehensible, for him to assume the part of a panegyrist to the nominee of any party not strictly Southern."

I am now satisfied that Mr. Orr's popularity has been merely personal; and not originating from any admiration of, or confidence in his abilities! His strong hold is with the illiterate and the un-intelligent. I have been informed that his course, in the last Secession and Co-operation contest, was that of the thorough demagogue. There is good ground, we think, to hope that his place in Congress will ere long be better filled."

"His strong hold is with the illiterate and the un-intelligent!" We have more state pride than to make such an accusation against a Representative from South Carolina, and especially would we scorn to utter an untruth. Col. Orr represents the second Congressional District, and it was our privilege to be a resident of Laurens District while he was a candidate for Congress.—We became acquainted with Col. Orr, and meeting with the gentleman on several public occasions, our acquaintance became more intimate. Now, we deny unequivocally that his strong hold was solely with the illiterate and un-intelligent. It is true his strong hold was with them in a measure; but it was also with the opulent and intelligent. The poor voted for him because they believed he was a man who would represent them properly, the rich were actuated by the same feeling. We can testify to this, for we were a spectator in the scene. Col. Orr is able to defend his own cause, therefore this article is not written as an extenuation, believing he cannot, but we dislike and despise the motive which would influence men to browbeat and deprecate others in the eyes of the world from a mistaken cause. We are opposed to the election of Gen. Pierce, and so are we to the election of Gen. Scott; but shall the conduct of Col. Orr be called reprehensible merely because believing Gen. Pierce fit to occupy the Presidential chair, he advocated the nomination of the Baltimore Convention?

As we observed, a great portion of the community are in favor of slavery, and it is thought the State will cast the electoral vote for him. Why, then, should Col. Orr be thus calumniated for supporting the nomination? We are opposed to his (General Pierce's) election.

We give some extracts of a speech delivered at Concord, N. H., (Gen. Pierce's place of residence,) which the reader can form his own opinion of. The energetic and strenuous efforts made at the North by the Democratic party to elect Pierce, gives us no favorable opinion of him as a ruler over this nation.

We attributed the blame to the Publishers of the Winstboro Register, in consequence of not receiving that paper regularly. This is the Register's reply: The Winstboro Register comes very irregularly. As we never receive some numbers, we apprehend it must be the fault of the Publishers.—Lancaster Ledger.

Not so friend BAILEY. The fault does not attach to this establishment. Our Senior, Mr. BRITTON, discharges the duty of mailing, and he is certain that the Register is daily and promptly deposited in the Post Office addressed "Lancaster Ledger, &c."

Until Post Masters can be induced to discharge the duties of their respective offices with fidelity to the public, failures to receive our papers either by Subscribers or Exchanges, (resulting from a want of attention on the part of Post Masters or their Clerks) must be anticipated.

We embrace this opportunity to say a word or two respecting the diligence and attention of our Post Master at this place. From our own observation, and the knowledge that our letters have been

always safely received by our correspondents, and also, hearing no complaint from our subscribers concerning the prompt receipt of the Ledger; we feel in duty bound to say that the Post Office at Lancaster, C. H. is conducted in a manner highly creditable to our worthy friend, the Post Master.

"Yet once more, saith the fool, yet once, and is it not a little one? Spare me this folly yet an hour, for what is one among so many? And he blindeth his conscience with lies, and stupefies his heart with doubts? Whom shall I harm in this matter, and a little ill breatheth much good? My thoughts are they not mine own? and they leave no mark behind them? And if God so pardoneth crime, how should these petty sins offend him? So he transgresseth yet again, and falleth by little and little 'Till the ground crumble beneath him, and he sinketh into the gulf despairing."

Tupper applies the above lines to the trifler; and many triflers there are in our day and generation. Foremost, and predominant among the triflers of this day, we find those, who are so shamelessly and shamefully deprived of all principles of truth and honesty that in every circumstance of life, they are crumbling the good beneath them, not only in the eyes of their fellow men, but in the eyes of Him who knoweth all things, on account of the abominable and detestable habit of telling falsehoods. Many, ah, very many of our upright citizens—will lie. The habit has so "grown with their growth, and strengthened with their strength," that to utter falsehoods daily is as common to them as drinking water. We have known men who actually had become so habituated to the detestable practice, that they would in conversation, tell some of the most atrocious falsehoods, firmly believing what they said.

A friend relates a little anecdote of a man he once knew, who was a very "clever fellow," but for his telling lies. It appears that B., the man in question, was telling of the vast number of deer in his section of country, and of their prodigious size. He went on to say, that one day while hunting, he was partly tripped up, and turned round to see if a root were not the cause, when, to his astonishment, he found a buck's horns near his feet. Upon further examination, he discovered that a snake had swallowed a buck, and there were the horns protruding from his mouth, because they could not go down. This is fact.

Did every man tell such falsehoods, though it would lower him in the eyes of the world, and elevate his immoral character in the eyes of the devil, still it would not serve to injure his fellow man in any way. So far, therefore, there would be no harm done; but when men, and—we dislike to say it—when women, calling themselves ladies, contaminate their mouths, by retailing base slanderous falsehoods against others, it surpasses every act of contemptuous meanness we know of.

"God's last, best gift to man"—the prettiest object of God's creation—so far descending from the position God intended her to occupy—uttering falsehoods against other men and ladies of character. We have but little respect for those ladies (and there are such) who will listen to tales which bear the impress of falsity, but when they repeat tales, yes, add to them to give them more coloring, we are almost disposed to exclaim, where is truth?—where is honesty?—if not in a woman's heart, where is it?

To fill the highest position on this habitable globe—guided and directed by good and equitable laws, which God in his wisdom and goodness gave unto man—having an authority and diction over all things—man was placed here to fulfil a high destiny. This shall thou do, and this will bring thee happiness, not only here, but hereafter; and this has no hard rule to be guided by. We all have a sense of right and wrong, although, sometimes, our consciences become deadened, and in order to please our fancy, because we amuse others, truth, the bulwark of religious faith, is disregarded, and others are falsified, to gratify the foolish and vain fancy of babbling.

We speak contemptuously of the abominable habit, for it is abominable, and although sometimes "truth will prevail," yet we have instance upon instance, where the most deleterious effects have resulted solely from this evil. Men who call yourselves gentlemen, bridge your tongue, and think before you speak. Women who call yourselves ladies—

"Listen often ere thou think much; and look around thee ere thou judgest. Memory, the daughter of Attention, is the tender mother of wisdom. And seeing is she that storeth knowledge, than she that would make it for herself."

The Charleston Courier of the 30th ult., says:

Understanding that various rumors are being circulated in the interior that the Cholera and Yellow Fever are prevailing in this city, we most cheerfully state, and we do so on the highest authority, that there is not, nor has there been, a single case of either of these diseases in this city this season. In fact, as the weekly statement of deaths clearly indicate, Charleston at this moment presents as clean a bill of health as any city of the same population in the Union. Our country friends therefore need labor under no apprehension, but may visit our City with the most perfect impunity as far as any epidemic is concerned, and we assure them that should unfortunately any occur, as public Journalists, we should feel it to be an imperative duty we owed to our fellow citizens throughout the Union, as promptly and distinctly to make the fact known, as we now contradict the existence of any contagious disease in our midst.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE, FOR JULY, we have received from the Publishers, Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co., New York. Contents: Our National Defences. Kate Stewart. American Politics. My Novel, part xxii. Alphonse Karr. Nepal. The Celestials at Home and Abroad. The General Elections. We have not had sufficient leisure time as yet to peruse all the articles in this number. The first article exposes the weakness of England, or in other words, her inability for a lack of necessary material, to combat with other nations, where provision is made to guard in all times against invasion. We may notice this number more fully.

Price of Blackwood's Magazine \$3 00—Blackwood's and the four Reviews \$10 00. See advertisement on outside page. PAY YOUR POSTAGE.—Of all the outrageous bores that human forbearance is required to contend with, nothing can be more aggravating than to have to pay postage on dirty-looking, square-toed, unimportant, contemptible letters on other men's business. We have been worried enough with them, and we now give notice to all persons concerned, in general, and to "a school teacher away up in Gordon county," who has been making us the recipient of some of his senseless doggerel, in particular, that hereafter all letters addressed to this office on business must be post paid, or they will meet with no attention.—Cassville Standard.

You express our sentiments exactly, friend Burke.

The Crops.

EDGEFIELD, S. C. July 28. SEASONABLE.—The clouds have been blessing us with the most plentiful showers for the last week and as a consequence the corn crop may be safely said to be a large one. From all parts of our district we hear good tidings on this point. Our farmers have generally "laid by" every thing except cotton which will require a little more light plowing and hoeing in certain grassy sections.

It is delightful to anticipate the plentifulness of the approaching Fall. Crops that have been long unaccustomed to heaps of fine large, sound, home made ears of corn, may be safely put in order now for the reception of bushel upon bushel, load upon load, and barns that have been lately occupied by "airy nothing" and famished rats, may be swept out in preparation for being stuffed to overflowing with oats, fodder, hay, cow-peas, &c.

If with the almost certain prospect ahead, our farmers will determine to exercise moderate forethought and economy, we will have corn-bread, hogmeat, hock-cake, fine beef, fat horses, sleek mules and many other things that all good farmers ought to have from this time out—or at least until our people again run crazy with the cotton fever.—Advertiser.

MARION C. H. July 27.

From observation and information it may be truly said that the crops of cotton and corn in this District are surpassingly good. From the quantity planted, the yield will probably much exceed that of any previous year. The rains have been abundant, and in some localities have done injury, but generally planters have reason to be thankful for a good crop year. The treasures of many will be increased by the introduction and use of guano. Some of our enterprising citizens, it is said will make 3,000 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, on highland fields, by improved tillage and the aid of this foreign manure.

Star.

ABUNDANT CROPS IN MISSISSIPPI.—A letter from Holly Springs, Miss., says:—"We some weeks since harvested the largest wheat, rye and oats crop ever grown in this section of the country. More wheat was sown than ever before, and the yield has been much larger. So abundant is it that wheat is fed to our mules and hogs. Should the present favorable season continue, corn will be almost without value, except for use, and our cotton crop equal, if it does not exceed, any former year."

THE PRICE OF CORN.—The fine rains we have lately had, and fine prospect of the wheat crop, together with an abundant oats and wheat crop, have reduced the price of corn in Greenville from \$125 per bushel to 75 cents, and it is still falling! Greenville Patriot.

FOR THE LEDGER.

Prolific Grain—One Grain yielding thirty bushels and a half.

Mr. Editor.—In my crop of Wheat in 1850, my Overseer, of my plantation in York District, discovered, as he thought, a new kind of Wheat. On being shown a head of it, I told him it was Barley; how it came there we are at a loss to say. He takes this bunch, yielding about 400 grains, and drills in my wheat ground which he manured with Cotton seed.—About one third of it did not yield in proportion to the balance, being planted in rather wet ground—this crop was a little short of three pecks, last fall the same was sowed in this fresh land, some in the drill, the balance broad cast, which has yielded thirty bushels and a half well cleaned Barley. This crop exceeds your fine beets, turnips, or corn.

T. K. CURETON.

P. S. I have no desire that the Committee who are inspecting the Crops of the neighborhood should look at mine. I will make my own Bread and Meat. I have no objection to giving them and yourself, dinners of fine Ham, Mutton of the fine Baskwell stock, and of fowl of the large Shanger breed. T. K. C. Waxhaw Creek, August 2, 1852. The Editor accepts the Invitation.

Rail Road Meeting.

A meeting was held at the Court House on the first Monday in August, pursuant to a resolution passed on said day in July. Hon. Wm. Reed being called to the Chair, the Preamble and Resolutions of last meeting were read. Capt. Gaston submitted the following Report from a meeting of the citizens of Chester District: RICH HILL, CHESTER DIST., July 30, 1852.

At a meeting of citizens of Chester District, favorable to the construction of a Rail Road from Chester to Lancaster, held this day at Rich Hill, Dr. Jno. B. Gaston was called to the Chair, and Col. D. A. Beckham appointed to act as Secretary.

The object of the meeting being stated to be the appointment of delegates to the adjourned meeting to be held at Lancaster on Monday the 2d August next, on motion a committee of three was appointed to nominate suitable persons to attend said meeting. Upon the report of this committee twenty-six gentlemen were appointed, of whom the following attended the meeting: Tilman Ingram, Daniel G. Stinson, Jas. A. H. Gaston, W. A. White, J. B. Magill, Henry Moffatt, and Jesse Clifton, Jr.

A committee of twenty-one, consisting of the following gentlemen, Dixon Barnes, Col. Huey, Capt. McKenna, Dan'l W. Brown, Joseph Cunningham, Robert McIlwain, W. A. Moore, Jas. P. Crockett, W. E. Johnson, S. B. Emmons, J. Adams, John Williams, were appointed to prepare business for the meeting. The following resolutions were presented by them, which, after some debate, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we do most earnestly desire, and most heartily approve, of the construction of a Rail Road from Lancaster Court House to connect, either with the South Carolina Rail Road at Camden, or with the Charlotte and South Carolina Rail Road at Chesterville, Ridgeway, or some other suitable point on said Road; and we hereby promise and agree that we will liberally subscribe to each one or all of the routes leading to the several points herein designated; and whichever route may be selected after the charter has been obtained and the stock subscribed, we, the citizens of Lancaster District, will cordially unite in support of it.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting to memorialize the next Legislature upon this subject, and to solicit material aid from the State in the building of said Road.

Resolved, That notice be immediately published in the Lancaster Ledger, for three months, that an application will be made to the next Legislature for a Charter for said Road.

Resolved, That the members of the next Legislature from Lancaster District are earnestly requested to ask from the next General Assembly, a liberal subscription towards the construction of this Road; and the various candidates who are now competing for a seat in the next Legislature, are likewise requested to bring this important enterprise before the people for their consideration.

In accordance with the second resolution, the following gentlemen were appointed by the Chairman, viz: John Williams, M. P. Crawford, J. Galluchat, J. H. Witherspoon, and P. T. Hammond.

On motion of John Stewart, Esq., the meeting then adjourned.

WM. REED, Chairman, M. P. CRAWFORD, J. C. SECREST, Secretaries.

FOR THE LEDGER.

Mr. Editor: As voters of Lancaster District, we would take this method of respectfully calling upon the candidates for the Legislature now before the people to give us their respective views on two or three subjects, in our opinion, of great importance, and in which every voter ought to, and certainly does, feel a deep interest. We allude, in the first place, to the Presidential Election; secondly, to the Free School System; and lastly, to the Bank question. We trust our candidates will take the earliest opportunity to give us their views on the above questions, and oblige

MANY VOTERS.

PLEASE CIRCULATE.—If one Mr Brooks, a Printer, formerly of Raleigh, N. C., who recently worked in the Printing Office at Cassville, Ga., will address a letter to J. Marsh, Cassville, Ga. he will hear of something of importance to himself. Papers in North and South Carolina will oblige by giving the above a few insertions.—Cassville Standard.

KING'S MOUNTAIN RAIL ROAD.—We learn from the Yorkville S. C., Remedy that at a meeting of the Directors of this Road held on the 27th inst., the following officers were elected for the term of one year, with the salaries annexed: J. C. Phillips, Agent \$500, Jas. Jefferys, Book-keeper, \$500; Robt. FM'Clure, Conductor, \$350.

We learn also that from and after Monday next, the mail will be brought from Chester in the cars, which will then run at regular hours.

A poor fellow was brought before police justice, charged with the crime of being intoxicated. The justice interrogated him, "Well what did you get drunk and come here in this condition for?" "See here," was the reply, uttered in the hiccup and accent of a drunken man, "what do you give license for?"

From the Raleigh Star. Gen. Pierce on the Fugitive Slave Law. IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE!!

It will be seen from the following that Gen. Pierce is charged, at home, with having said, "He did not regard the fugitive slave law as consistent with common law!" That he "loathed" the fugitive slave law!

That he had "a most revolting feeling at the giving up of a slave!" That "the law is opposed to humanity!" That "it is opposed to moral right!" This is a newspaper statement; the correctness of which, says the Richmond Times, "has never yet been questioned."

We publish it, as a journalist, for the information and judgment of our readers. The Times says: The Washington Republic copies the following extraordinary development from the Independent Democrat, a journal published in Concord New Hampshire, the residence of Gen. Pierce. Its correctness has never yet been questioned:

From the Independent Democrat, published at Concord, New Hampshire.

At the meeting appointed at New Boston Centre on Friday afternoon of January 2d, by Gen. Franklin Pierce, to address the citizens of that town in regard to the difficulties between himself and a portion of the Democrats of that section, he occupied the hour of his life in defending his military character. He explained the circumstance of his fainting, and declared that "with the exception of a single occasion he had led his command in the blaze of every battle."

After this he commenced speaking upon the Fugitive Slave law. He said that it differed in no important particular from the law of 1793. A clergyman who was present said, that as the invitation had been given, he would like to make an inquiry: "Do you regard the features of the Fugitive Slave law as consistent with Common law?"

General Pierce immediately replied:—"If I must answer the question, I say no, I do not. I have been asked if I liked this Fugitive Slave law. I answered no, I loathed it. I have a most revolting feeling at the giving up of a slave, the law is opposed to humanity."

Here Mr. Foss inquired, "If it were not opposed to right as well as humanity?" General Pierce replied: "Yes, it is opposed to moral right."

The above is the substance of General Pierce's remarks upon the Fugitive Slave law. The quotation marks include the very language used by the General, as taken down at the time it was uttered.

The above is corroborated by the following from the Manchester (N. H.) Democrat of January 8th, 1852. That paper speaking of the same speech of General Pierce, at the meeting on the 2d January, says:

"The speaker now took up the subject of slavery. He said it was the greatest trouble of the country, and was so regarded by Washington. As for himself, he never saw a human being in bondage without feeling his heart revolt at it. Slavery is contrary to the Constitution in some respects—a moral blot upon the character of the nation. But it can't be helped." He referred to the great peril in which the Union had been placed. Some, and among them Rhett of South Carolina, openly avowed disunion; and John P. Hale had so far joined in the movement as to crack his jokes with Rhett and other secessionists. For himself, he was in great distress when he heard that the compromise measures had failed. He was at Meredith, and told the people he wanted to die if the Union was to be dissolved—and dissolve it must, if the compromise measures did not save it.

The General then introduced Mr. Webster to the attention of his audience. He had been charged with going for Mr. Webster. The fact was he had always been opposed to that man, and his father at one time like to have lost his office of Sheriff by him. In company with others he received an invitation to dine with Mr. Webster at Franklin. His father often used to entertain Whigs at dinner. Much had been written as to what he said on that occasion. "I will tell what I did say," said General P.; "I said to Mr. Webster, we never have agreed before, and we never may again. We agree upon the compromise question, and let us make the most of it." He declared that there had "not much silly lying about this matter, but omitted to state that the Boston Post-er his correspondent, who was present at the dinner, was responsible for it. He declared that Mr. Webster and Mr. Clay were sincere in their efforts to save the Union. Mr. Clay was dying, and if he had been as sincere in every act of his life as in the part he had taken in the compromise measures, he would receive from the great Judge what we all so much desire—the approval. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

"After a few more exclamations in regard to saving the Union, and announcing the fact that in the late war "my own command and the Palmetto regiment stood together on the field of battle," the General again took up the compromise measures, saying that the North got the kernel and the South the shell. He repeated what Mr. Ayer had stated before, "that the present Fugitive Slave law, about which so much noise is made, was in no particular different from the law of 1793, under which we had lived nearly fifty years."

"Here Mr. Foss said, that without interrupting the speaker, he wished to make an inquiry: "If in no particular different, why was it necessary to pass the present law?"

"General P. replied that the old law could not be executed because its execution depended on the State courts. He also said something which was not fully understood about the law of 1793, as based partly on the common law."

"He was then asked, "Was either the law of '93, or the present law, founded in any degree upon the common law?"

Gen. Pierce—"I can't go into a disquisition upon the common law."

"Gen. Pierce—Well, if I must answer, No, I do not. I have been asked if I liked this Fugitive Slave law. I answered no. I have a most revolting feeling at the giving up of a slave; the Fugitive Slave law is opposed to humanity. (Here some one inquired "is it not opposed to right?") Yes, it is opposed to moral right. But our fathers made the compact, and we must fulfill it. I say nothing of the humanity of it, nothing of the right of it. "Gen. P. then gave a vivid description of the scenes that would occur if the law was disregarded. First a body of twenty armed men would cross the Pennsylvania line to recover the fugitive slaves; twenty would meet them to defend the slaves. Then five hundred would come to meet by an equal number; and before three months would pass an army of 500,000 would be in the field; and the South would be as likely to plant their banner at Philadelphia, as the North theirs at Charleston.

Congress.

In the U. S. Senate, on Thursday, 29th inst, a bill was taken up directing that a reconnaissance should be made of the China Sea, Behring's Straits, and the route pursued by vessels engaged in the whaling service.

Mr. Seward, of New York, addressed the Senate in support of the bill, and then submitted an amendment. The further consideration of the bill was postponed.

The Senate took up the bill from the House of Representatives, as reported back with amendments by the Committee on Finance, making appropriation for the current and contingent expense of the Indian Department, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1853.

In the House of Representatives, the bill granting to the State of Michigan a portion of the public lands and the right of way, in aid of the construction of the Oakland and Ottawa railroad, was again taken up and laid on the table. A motion to reconsider was then made, but pending the question on this motion, the morning hour having expired, on motion the rules were suspended, and the House then went into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the improvement of certain harbors and rivers. Much debate ensued, but without coming to a final vote, the committee rose, reported progress, and the House adjourned.

To the Citizens of Lancaster District.

FELLOW-CITIZENS.—I regret exceedingly that I find myself surrounded by circumstances, which impose upon me the unpleasant duty, in justice to myself and to those who are dependant upon me, of appearing before you in this public manner. Providence having cast my lot in your midst, the highest point to which my ambition soars, is, that I may be permitted humbly and quietly to pass the remainder of my days among you, in the enjoyment of that retirement, so soothing to the feelings and so congenial to the chafed spirit of one, who has experienced his full share of the misfortunes and adversities of life. It, however, appears that this privilege, though small, is to be denied me, and I am to be dragged "nolens volens" before you, and immolated upon the altar of public opinion;—because—forsooth—I dared to aid (by simply granting the use of my name as security) a poor, weak and friendless youth, in seeking that protection of the laws of his country, which is guaranteed to the slave himself, and which glorious peculiarity of American institutions, renders these United States emphatically the home of the stranger, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation. For the effectual preparation of the victim for the sacrifice (noble! magnanimous object!) the grossest misrepresentations and misstatements have been freely circulated among you. Adopting, then, the language of one of old, I would say, "strike!" but hear. In placing before you a true and concise statement of the facts, so far, and only so far as I am concerned, I shall endeavor to be as brief as the nature of the case will admit; and shall, if I know my heart "nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

On Sabbath afternoon, July 18th, I was informed, that Dr. Richard E. Wylie had, a few moments before I met my informant, severely chastised with a cane, a young man who has resided for some few months past in our village, and who, so far as I know or can learn, has conducted himself with decorum and propriety. Being shocked both at the nature of the punishment, and the place and day of its infliction, I naturally enquired for the offence, which could justify such an assault at such a time. I was told that the Doctor had heard that he had made use of some disrespectful expression in reference to a member of his household.—Having learned, who his author was, and in consideration of his (the Doctor's) high and influential position, necessarily resulting from the professional relation he has so long sustained to this community, I did then, and have since freely expressed my astonishment at, and my condemnation of such address upon such authority. On the afternoon of the day after (Monday) I entered the Office of John Williams Esq., (for the purpose of accompanying him to my house, he being under an engagement to spend the evening with me) where I found the young man above alluded to, who had previously made his complaint to Mr. Williams, upon which complaint the necessary legal course had been already entered upon, and he was